

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

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SUBJECT: STUDY OF THE USE OF WARNING TIME

THERE FOLLOWS BELOW TEXT OF SHAPE INPUT CIRCULATED
AT THE SEPTEMBER 29 MEETING OF THE JOINT WORKING GROUP ON
THE USE OF WARNING TIME.
BEGIN TEXT.

THE FOLLOWING MEASURES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED BY THE SHAPE STAFF
AS BEING AMONG THOSE WHICH COULD FACILITATE THE LATER IM-
PLEMENTATION OF OTHER PLANS:

A. PREADEXS. THE CONCEPT OF PREPLANNED READINESS EXERCISES, AS
PUT FORWARD IN MC 109 AND DEVELOPED IN ACE AS SACEUR OPLAN
10400, PROVIDES FOR "EXERCISES, PLANNED IN PEACETIME, THAT
CAN BE IMPLEMENTED QUICKLY TO TEST OR INCREASE THE READINESS
OF NATO FORCES...". THESE EXERCISES, WHICH CAN BE ADAPTED
TO ANY DEGREE OF TENSION, COULD CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO
THE INCREASED READINESS OF NATO AND NATIONAL FORCES. THE IM-
PLEMENTATION OF PREADEXS IN TIMES OF TENSION REQUIRES MC
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AND NAC/DPC APPROVAL. IT MIGHT BE THAT NATIONAL COMMITMENTS TO
SUPPORT CERTAIN PREADEXS, PARTICULARLY AT THE LOWER LEVELS OF
ACTIVITY, WITHOUT FURTHER NAC/DPC AUTHORITY WOULD ENHANCE
NATO CAPABILITIES EARLY IN A PERIOD OF TENSION.

B. CIVIL STOCK LEVELS. IN THE AREA OF LOGISTIC SUPPORT, ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE BY WHICH CIVIL STOCKS OF CERTAIN ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES (AVIATION FUEL AS AN EXAMPLE) COULD BE KEPT AT A HIGH PERCENTAGE OF STORAGE CAPACITY. LEGISLATION MIGHT BE ENACTED OR CONTRACTS REACHED BY WHICH FUEL AT IMPORTANT CIVIL AIRPORTS WOULD BE KEPT AT NO LESS THAN, SAY, 80 PCT OF CAPACITY. THIS WOULD ENHANCE THE ABILITY FOR LARGE SCALE AIR OPERATIONS SUCH AS REDEPLOYMENT OF DUAL-BASED FORCES EVEN IN THE FACE OF FUEL SHORTAGES.

C. EARLY TRANSFER OF COMMAND. THE NATO NATIONS, FOR VARIOUS REASONS, HAVE AGREED TO TRANSFER OPERATIONAL COMMAND/CONTROL OF THEIR FORCES TO NATO COMMANDERS AT DIFFERENT TIMES. AS A RESULT, A NATO COMMANDER CANNOT BE SURE OF WHAT FORCES WILL BE AVAILABLE TO HIM IN A PERIOD OF CRISIS. CERTAIN FORCES MIGHT NOT BE AVAILABLE AT ALL AND SUCH CRITICAL ACTIONS AS DEPLOYMENT TO GDP POSITIONS MIGHT HAVE TO BE ACCOMPLISHED UNDER A MIXED NATO/NATIONAL COMMAND. AT THE FIRST INDICATIONS OF TENSION, NATIONAL ACTIONS TO IMPROVE THE CATEGORIZATION OF ALERT MEASURES DEALING WITH THE TRANSFER OF COMMAND, AND OF THE EARLY ENACTMENT OF LEGISLATION WHERE THIS IS REQUIRED, WOULD ENHANCE THE ABILITY OF NATO TO QUICKLY REACH A HIGHER LEVEL OF READINESS.

D. PREPARATION FOR AND DEPLOYMENT OF EXTERNAL FORCES. TIMELY PREPARATION FOR AND ACTUAL DEPLOYMENT OF SUCH FORCES IN TIMES OF TENSION CAN GIVE A CLEAR SIGNAL OF NATO'S SOLIDARITY AND RESOLVE TO COMMONLY RESIST ANY AGGRESSION AND THUS REPRESENT AN IMPORTANT FACTOR OF DETERRENCE. IN PARTICULAR, THE DEPLOYMENT OF FORCES SUCH AS IMMEDIATE REACTION AND ON-CALL FORCES, DUAL-BASED AND RAPID REACTION FORCES CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO THIS ASPECT AND, AT THE SAME TIME, CONSIDERABLY INCREASES ACE DEFENSE CAPABILITIES. AN EARLY ARRIVAL OF SUCH FORCES IN THEIR AREAS OF COMMITMENT REQUIRES CAREFUL AND DETAILED PLANNING IN PEACETIME, INCLUDING FIRM ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NECESSARY TRANSPORT AND RECEPTION FACILITIES,

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AND EARLY POLITICAL DECISIONS AS WELL AS MILITARY PREPARATIONS. EXERCISES OF THE DEPLOYMENT IN PEACETIME, SUCH AS REFORGER, ON AN IRREGULAR BASIS, WOULD PERMIT AND UNSCHEDULED DEPLOYMENT EARLY IN A PERIOD OF TENSION AND DIMINISH ESCALATORY RISKS.

E. CALL-UP OF RESERVISTS. MANY NATIONS DEPEND - TO A SMALLER OR LARGER EXTENT- ON THE CALL-UP OF RESERVIST PERSONNEL TO ACHIEVE THE DESIRED HIGH LEVEL OF OPERATIONAL READINESS IN THEIR UNITS. A MEASURE TO CALL-UP RESERVISTS EARLY, INDEPENDENT FROM THE ALERT SYSTEM, PRIOR TO GENERAL MOBILIZATION AND WITHOUT LENGTHY PARLIAMENTARY DECISIONS WOULD GREATLY INCREASE FORCE EFFECTIVENESS AND READINESS IN TIMES OF TENSION. A GRADUAL CALL-UP OF RESERVISTS, STARTING WITH SPECIALIST AND

KEY PERSONNEL, COULD BE CONSIDERED AS BEING ONLY OF LITTLE
ESCALATORY RISK. SOME NATIONS DO ALREADY HAVE THE NECESSARY
LEGISLATION AND AN APPROPRIATE SYSTEM FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION;
AND OTHER NATIONS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO CONSIDER MAKING
SIMILAR PROVISIONS.
END TEXT.STREATOR

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